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THE HONOR SYSTEM.

Extract from a Statute for the Good Government of the
College of William and Mary, Passed July 6, 1830.

5. If the Society of President Masters and Professors or any member of it shall believe that a Student or Students have in any manner misbehaved or have been idle or inattentive to his studies, it shall be the duty of the Society to appoint one or more of their own body to confer with and advise in private and in a friendly manner such student; and if he shall deny on his Honor as a Gentleman the offence of which it has been believed he was guilty, such denial shall be taken as conclusive evidence of his innocence.

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14. And to obviate any doubt as to the mode or Sufficiency of proof, it is declared to be their duty, and the Society and each Professor is strictly enjoined and required, to act whenever they shall believe that a Student or Students have committed any Offence or Misbehaved in any manner: and when any Student or Students are thus charged with any offence, unless he or they shall deny it, the Society shall proceed to act; and this upon the strict legal principle that if one charged with an Offence shall stand mute he shall be punished.

15. But in all cases when a Student or Students shall be believed to have committed an Offence and shall on his Honor as a Gentleman deny it & aver his innocence, such declaration shall be taken by a Professor as conclusive proof of his innocence, because the convocation is satisfied that no Student will degrade himself by a falsehood, and that an appeal to his Honor will never be made in vain.